

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 8-20 are pending in this application. Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claims 5 and 9-17 contain allowable subject matter.

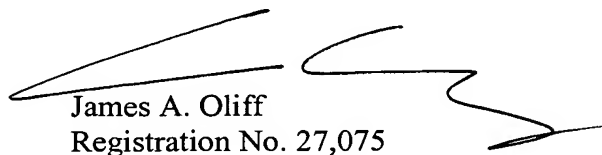
By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter recited in claim 5. Accordingly, claim 5 is canceled.

As amended, claim 1 is patentable over the prior art of record. Claims 2-4 and 8-20 are also patentable at least in view of the patentability of claim 1, from which they depend, as well as for additional features they recite.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-4 and 8-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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